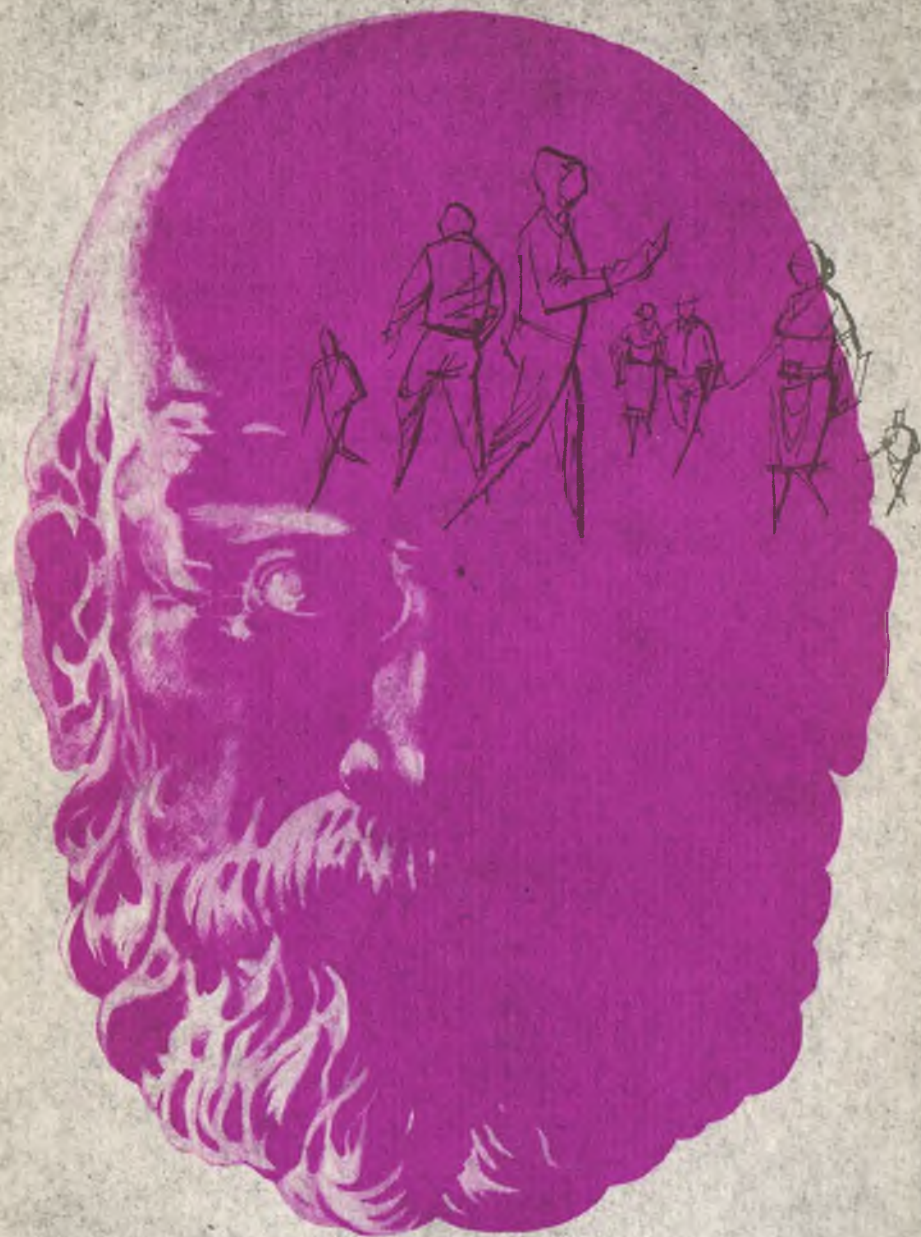




SHIMER COLLEGE
STUDENT HANDBOOK





A FOUR YEAR COEDUCATIONAL COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS



from the office of the president

To New Students—Welcome!

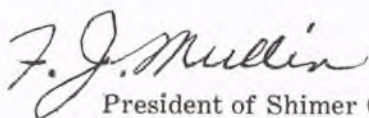
It gives me great pleasure to send to each new student at Shimer College this fall a word of greeting through the Student Handbook, which was prepared by a student committee working under the Student Cabinet and with the College Administration. We have an exciting community of scholars, and we welcome you into our midst. Our students, our faculty, and our administration believe wholeheartedly in attacking seriously the significant problems of our times—basic problems, that is, of the meaning of life and the duty of the citizen. We are different here. We have not hesitated to undertake new approaches to education nor have we disregarded the opportunity to modify our program when better methods have been suggested either by students or by faculty.

One of the characteristics of this modern materialistic age has been the all-too-prevalent feeling of "lostness" and a widespread sense of the lack of real significance in our daily tasks. Many of us feel that the most important function of a college today is to help students discover the meaning and worthwhileness of life and to aid them in establishing lasting values. Shimer seeks to offer a broad general education for every student to develop in himself the capacity for independent thought on which sound judgment may be founded. It is the intellectual groundwork which equips every citizen with the sense of duty so necessary in a democracy; it is the preprofessional education to arm the professional man with the tool no amount of technical training can give him—the capacity for competent inquiry and responsible decision; it is the understanding of man's dignity and responsibility and of God's awesomeness and grace, without which education would be in vain.

Most of you will find this first year at Shimer quite different from anything you have experienced previously. You will find, though, that Shimer is a friendly place and that all of us will be glad to help you through your first challenging year here. We are truly a community, and you will have the opportunity to become a part of it. Don't hesitate to ask questions, and keep asking until you get a satisfactory answer. There are usually pretty good reasons for the things we do, though sometimes it's a little hard to find out just what they are.

The sooner you learn about Shimer, the sooner you can contribute to it. We think our students are our most important asset. You may be shy or reserved, but so are most of your classmates and many of the members of the faculty. You will share with others the difficulties as well as the excitements of the academic year. You will make new friends, lasting friendships that will be a rich resource for the rest of your life. You will face and solve new problems, meet new trials and frustrations, and assume new responsibilities. You will get great satisfaction out of your accomplishments and can be proud in four years or less to be recognized at graduation as a member of the company of educated men and women.

What you take away from Shimer will depend largely on what you put into your experiences here. There are great resources of learning, of companionship, of intellectual curiosity, of opportunities for exploring human relationships, of worship, and of human understanding. We welcome you, and hope that you will make the best of the opportunities available to you, and that your stay here will bring you joy and knowledge. You can become a person who will enliven our campus and add to our enterprise new zest and importance. I wish for each of you a happy and meaningful life at Shimer, and I send to you warmest greetings and best wishes from the faculty, staff, and students of your College.


President of Shimer College



THE STUDENT HANDBOOK

BY THE SHIMER COLLEGE STUDENT CABINET

It is difficult to record in a few pages a precise and unambiguous statement of what college life means to Shimer students. Shimer is noted for its flexibility. It is a place where personal points of view become important in determining the individual's responses to the customs, traditions, and general atmosphere of the college. Life at Shimer is essentially what one chooses that it shall be, within the framework of an academic community. Each student has both an opportunity and a responsibility to contribute to it.

Therefore, this handbook does not paint a complete picture of what the incoming students should expect, what they will like or dislike, and what they should or should not do. Rather, it confines itself to the description of those essential facts which each incoming student must interpret and utilize to the best of his ability. These are the raw materials of student life at Shimer; the construction itself is the responsibility of the individual. This handbook attempts to communicate only a general idea of the opportunities given and the conditions under which these opportunities may be used.

This handbook represents a point of view of students, directed to new students. The use of this handbook will eventually be superseded by personal experience, but this experience itself will be largely colored by early ideas of what life at Shimer is or should be. Here is one interpretation, drawn up by students who have seen and lived Shimer. Entering students may not see things in exactly the same light. However, this information is a guide to understanding and preparing for Shimer. Shimer becomes what one thinks it is. Be prepared to do some thinking.



THE ACADEMIC LIFE

Your most important asset at Shimer will be a strong desire for learning, because in entering the College you are encountering learning as a living experience.

Shimer education is unique, and we as students are proud to be a part of it; you—as an incoming student — have chosen to join this pursuit of knowledge. You can add to it and improve it.

THE SHIMER PLAN

The fundamental idea of the Shimer educational plan is that everyone, no matter what his field of specialization or choice of a career, should understand the basic concepts and general ideas in the three major areas of human knowledge—the humanities, the social sciences, and the natural sciences. The plan also provides for specialized work in preparation for careers in education, for professional school, or for graduate studies. Instead of basing courses on textbooks, studies are focused upon original works of the greatest thinkers of our heritage. You will be reading from Newton, Plato, Freud, Whitehead, Einstein, and others—originators of theories you may have met only in textbooks before. This is not a passive process, though; your objective will be to discover unanswered questions as well as to test the theories themselves. We learn to understand, evaluate, interrelate, and exercise judgment in our academic endeavors. These tools, with which education provides us, are essential to the democratic way of life and to our own understanding of the world.

What is the purpose of this philosophy in actuality? Basically, it teaches the student how to use his mind most profitably. Shimer students value knowledge, but at the moment are more anxious to discover how to obtain it. Consequently, our academic interests center around two poles—facts and their use.

This philosophy of education is generally referred to as the "Shimer Ideal." The better we understand the meaning of this phrase, the better equipped we will be to pursue it. It is not a set standard; it is expected that you will arrive filled with your own ideas and eager to present them. However, you will need to know beforehand the basic structure of the program upon which the pattern of learning here is based.

The faculty and administration are here to help. It is as exciting for them as for us when discussions are fruitful and when significant problems are attacked seriously by the group. They will welcome personal contact with the students outside of class, but the student must take the initiative. They respect our privacy and normally will not intrude upon it unless invited to do so. Shimer assumes that students are here for an education and that they are mature enough to look after themselves. Students should feel free to ask questions of each other, of the faculty, and of the

administration. In the spirit of free interchange of ideas, suggestions from students are welcomed and serious questions appreciated. This is the only way in which all can contribute to the proper degree of communication necessary in a real community of people working together to achieve significant goals.

THE PROGRAM

The educational program at Shimer is divided into the three major areas of knowledge—natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities. In the general studies program for all students each of the three fields is subdivided into four courses, each dealing with one aspect of the entire area. Briefly, these courses are designed to provide the fundamental tools in a subject, methods of analyzing their usage, and evaluations of particular works in each area. The structure of each is designed to demonstrate to the student methods of solving particular problems and ways of collecting facts. You will want to ask yourself how this artist, biologist, or economist developed his theory or produced his painting. It is possible and necessary to seek these answers both inside and outside of the course readings.

Communication is also a necessary part of any education—especially at Shimer where discussion and essay-writing skills are used constantly. This is an important reason for the teaching of courses in English, French, German, and Spanish, as well as courses in logic and mathematics. The advanced courses in mathematics further clarify the processes of reasoning and analysis.

Three additional courses in the History of Western Civilization, and in Philosophy have been included in this structure as a means of culmination and integration. The first two of these deal with the factors which have shaped Western thought; the latter deals with the basic problem which man has always confronted: What do I know and how do I know it? Here you will discover the ideas of philosophers about means of acquiring knowledge and the functions of the human mind. Yet, in the end you are always your own judge.

The College has instituted a system of placement tests which you will take during your first week on campus. You will then receive credit toward graduation in any areas in which you have demonstrated sufficient ability and mastery. On the other hand,

if the tests indicate that your previous education was lacking in some of the necessary basic skills, you will have the opportunity to take one or more of the basic skills courses. Regardless of your performance on these tests, (some exceptional students place out of as much as a year's work) the type of study and reading analysis called for in these tests will serve as a valuable introduction to Shimer academic life. It is possible, by "placing out," to complete the Shimer program in less than four years, but this is not the general practice. The College catalog further describes the placement tests.

For those who wish to specialize before receiving a Bachelor's degree, concentration courses are offered in the areas of the humanities, natural sciences, mathematics, social sciences, and education. The education courses qualify students for elementary and high school teaching certificates.

Under appropriate circumstances a program, approved in advance by the College, may involve a year's credit for study abroad or for successful work in a professional school of law, business, medicine, theology, engineering, or other similar field.

The courses in the Shimer program, though divided, are not completely distinct. For example, it is very likely that you will read several works in two or more courses from several different points of view. This makes it easier to realize the depth contained in a single work, as well as its various possible effects. Finally, the purpose is to integrate the areas and determine similarities as well as differences. This program does not attempt to cover every field of knowledge thoroughly; instead it reveals the manner in which the learning process functions in each.

CLASSES

Most classes at Shimer are eighty minutes in length and meet three times a week. The number of students in a class ranges from ten to thirty, usually there will be around fifteen. The discussion method is used in our general education classes with the instructor serving as the discussion leader. A basic assumption in the method is that no man's word is law, whether he is the instructor, a student, or the author being studied. Our object is to understand and evaluate the works we read and to apply the

concepts to other readings in the course. This is best accomplished by sharing our own ideas and benefiting from those of others. The discussion method is dependent upon the participation of all members of the class, and is a growth process arising out of the synthesis of the ideas and questions raised by the participants. In such a system, regular attendance, adequate preparation, and active participation will render the course most meaningful and enjoyable to you as well as to others.

STUDYING

Studying is one of the most important parts of our life at Shimer. We are here to learn. The way to achieve fullest understanding from a class is to prepare beforehand. The discussion has the most meaning to the student who is sufficiently prepared to inquire intelligently, grasp concepts, and contribute to the understanding of major points. The amount of time each course takes will depend upon your ability in the field, and your study schedule will be one which you will have to design for yourself. It is wise to get organized at the beginning of the year, follow a plan, and revise it as needed, depending upon the relative difficulties of the courses.

The old principle—at least two hours of study for every hour in class—is a good starting point, but don't let it be your sole guide. Students generally find that the time needed to prepare for a course varies with the individual, and most students need more time for one course than they do for another. Very often you will find that your reading rate is not the same for every course. An important point to keep in mind is not to set your study habits by others and how much or how little time they spend at the books. You are you, and different from everyone else. So do not expect your study habits to be like those of someone else. Often one of the best kept secrets around a college is the amount of time any given student actually spends studying.

When you run up against a problem that you just cannot solve or understand, do not hesitate to ask your instructor or another student about it. They will be happy to assist you and you will more than likely find the key to solving the problem. Your question may even serve to shed new light on the point in question for them too.

Cramming is something that just doesn't pay off at Shimer. In Shimer courses, time enters in a most important way into the thinking, reasoning, and learning processes, for which cramming makes no allowance. Burning the midnight oil every night, to improve either one's mind or one's pocket book, is often popularly associated with college life, but it is neither necessary nor the best way to go about one's studies. Certainly, there are times when papers pile up and you work into the wee small hours of the morning. This is the exception, however, not the general rule. Sufficient rest is essential to being alert, perceptive, and efficient in one's work, in college or out.

By far the most important point we wish to make is that, at Shimer, studying is a thrilling and enjoyable experience, not a chore. We are given the opportunity to read the contributions of the greatest men in all ages who have shaped our world and its ideas. We are confronted with the most fundamental questions that man can ask about the world and himself. The learning process does not end with the bell signifying the close of the class hour. We carry our discussions into the dining room, the lounges, and the grill . . . into our very lives, for education and learning is a living process.

GRADES

Shimer divides the year into two semesters and a summer session. Learning is assessed on the basis of course grades and comprehensive examination grades. The comprehensive examinations cover the area of several courses. A passing grade in both courses and comprehensive examinations must be secured to meet graduation requirements. The grade used to determine a cumulative grade average will be either the course grades or the comprehensive grade in any given area of knowledge, whichever is higher. General course requirements may be met by placement examination, or by a validation of transfer credit by examination, or by a satisfactory course grade at Shimer. Comprehensive examination requirements may be met only by taking and passing Shimer's special placement examinations or comprehensive examinations. Transfer credit is given for appropri-

ate advanced or specialized courses without validating examination.

Mid-semester grades are primarily advisory and do not go on one's permanent record. There are no comprehensive examinations in specialized work. As is true at most colleges, failure to maintain a satisfactory grade average results in the student's being placed on academic probation.

Graduation from Shimer College depends upon satisfaction of course requirements for seventeen general courses and seven other courses, a passing grade on nine comprehensive examinations, a cumulative grade average of C (2.0) or higher, satisfaction of a physical education requirement, completion of any basic skill courses which were required on entrance, the final year in residence.

The type of examination differs with each course, but a combination of essay and objective questions is usual. Essays test your organizing abilities and the degree of your understanding of particular works and their relationships to one another, while objective questions are especially helpful in directing your thinking in regard to interpretation. You are now on your own, so you can expect the instructors to assume that you are serious about learning.

Shimer College values its students in relation to how closely they achieve what they are capable of doing, rather than by grades alone.

SOCIAL LIFE

Shimer social life is best characterized by its ease of association and informality. There are planned activities, but each individual is able to create his own social environment. The closely knit atmosphere makes it possible to organize new clubs, but conversely, there is little need for closed groups. All activities are open to the student, and the feeling of belonging to a community of scholars has rendered fraternities and sororities unnecessary.

The campus offers varied facilities for informal social life. The "old grill" in Hathaway Hall is provided with a pool table, ping-pong tables, and a juke-box. It is a pleasant place for coke

dances. McNeal Grill in Howe Hall is convenient for a snack or soft drink and casual conversation, whereas the adjacent Student Lounge with TV is used for relaxation. Designated classrooms throughout the campus are available for club meetings and studying. Hostetter Lounge is a pleasant and handy "common room", especially before and after meals.

Mount Carroll has a bowling alley and good eating places for off-campus enjoyment. Bus trips are organized to enable the students to take advantage of special events out of town. The countryside provides pleasant surroundings for hunting, fishing, cycling, and picnicking. In the winter there is sledding, ice skating, and skiing.

The Student Social Committee is responsible for initiating and coordinating planned social activities. The committee is composed of co-chairmen appointed by the President, one elected student from each residence hall floor, a representative of each active student organization, an elected faculty member, and the Dean of Students. Activities include informal dances, formal dances, skating parties, parties with members of the faculty, and planned evening activities. The College also provides an excellent free film series on Friday nights.

Special interest groups are organized by the students and vary from year to year. The campus newspaper, *Quest*, and the yearbook provide opportunities for creative people. Politics Club, Psychology Club, Debate Club, and various other organizations offer stimulating discussions and speakers. For those interested in dramatics, Green Curtain sponsors three major productions a year, and offers facilities for as many minor or "workshop" productions as students wish to present. A Shimer closed circuit radio station, WRSB, gives students the opportunity to produce and listen to their own shows, with music, commentary, and coverage of special events.

There is a College choral group which gives concerts on and off the campus. Other musical groups, both vocal and instrumental, are formed as ability and interest dictate. Students and faculty participate in the Clinton Symphony Orchestra.

Shimer has intercollegiate basketball, swimming, cross country, track, tennis and golf teams which compete with other small

colleges in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Iowa. The physical education department sponsors an extensive intramural program. The gym is open certain evenings during the week for swimming and the use of other gym facilities.

Several young people's groups in the local churches in Mount Carroll welcome interested Shimer students as members. Other student religious groups on the campus provide companionship, discussion, and inspiration.

Shimer is an Episcopal college, but believes that worship is a personal experience and encourages students to participate in religious exercises of their own choice. There are five churches in Mount Carroll, holding services every Sunday. Denominations represented are Baptist, Church of God, Lutheran, Methodist, and Roman Catholic. Episcopal and non-denominational services are held on campus.

Although Shimer does have many planned activities in which the students are invited to participate, the social stress is on informality and freedom of activity. This atmosphere aids in cementing student-faculty relations. The student at Shimer will find close friends among the faculty members and will enjoy informal association with them.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Mount Carroll is a pleasant town of 2000 people, set in the rolling farmland of northwestern Illinois, about 130 miles west of Chicago. The town is exclusively residential.

The weather in Mount Carroll, 30 miles south of Wisconsin, is cool and delightful in the fall and spring. The winter months bring rather cold temperatures, with below zero readings occasionally in December, January, and February. Snow and ice are prevalent throughout most of the winter.

Four highways serve the town: Illinois 64, 78, and 88, and U.S. 52. A Milwaukee Road train, the Arrow, between Chicago and Omaha, stops in Mount Carroll. A number of Burlington, Great Northern, Milwaukee, Northern Pacific, and Union Pacific trains serve Savanna, ten miles to the west on the Mississippi River. A Scenic Stage Line bus runs daily between Savanna, Mount Carroll, and Freeport, and connects with transcontinental

bus lines. Taxi service is available between Savanna and Mount Carroll.

COLLEGE COLORS AND NAME

Shimer's colors are maroon and gold; the teams are called the "Pioneers". Pennants, decals, and other such items are for sale in the bookstore.

CONVOCACTION

Three convocations, at which attendance is required, are held each year. There is an Opening Convocation early in the fall, following which there is traditionally a dance for students and alumni. There is an Honors Convocation later in the fall recognizing the Shimer Scholastic Honor Society. In the spring there is the Commencement Convocation for the graduating students.

ASSEMBLY

Normally, an assembly, at which attendance is required, is scheduled each week. A committee of students and faculty representatives plans these gatherings. Usually, a speaker from outside the campus is invited, but openings are left for programs by students or faculty members.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION

Medical examination forms must be completed and returned to the office of the Dean of Students before registration. A late registration fee will be charged if the form is not returned by that time.

CLOTHING

Neat informality is the general rule for campus dress. Casual clothes are worn most of the time. Exceptions are such functions as the weekly evening dress dinner and Sunday noon dinner, receptions at the President's house or elsewhere on the campus, concerts, and convocations. Such occasions require coats and ties for the men and appropriate dresses for the women.

CLOTHING FOR WOMEN STUDENTS

The traditional skirt and sweater are quite appropriate for classroom wear, with socks and comfortable shoes. Bermudas or slacks are permitted for class, but jeans are reserved for leisure periods. Short shorts are worn only for active sports. There are three dances a year for which a formal or cocktail dress is necessary. The College is not a fashion resort, however, and neat, comfortable attire is stylish at Shimer.

CLOTHING FOR MEN STUDENTS

Slacks, Bermuda shorts with long socks, or wash-pants, with sport shirts or sweaters, are the usual clothes for the men on campus. Blue jeans are worn for relaxation and sports. A dark suit is a necessity for the formal dances, but tuxedos are by no means essential.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS AND EQUIPMENT FOR ATHLETICS

Owners of portable musical instruments and equipment for athletics and sports are urged to bring them to college. Regulation gym uniforms are to be purchased in the bookstore. Swim suits for recreational swimming must have sew-on type name tapes.

ROOMS

Rooms are furnished with single beds and mattresses (6'3" X 3' with some 7' X 3' beds available), pillows (20" wide), chairs, study tables, chests of drawers and window shades. Draperies are furnished by the College only in Howe Residence Hall. Students supply bedding, including a mattress pad, curtains or draperies, towels, washcloths, study lamps, and wastepaper baskets. Information concerning the number of windows and the color of the walls will be sent with your room assignment. It is usually wise to consult one's roommate before purchasing bed spreads, draperies, or rugs. Rooms are periodically visited by college personnel and in the interests of health and safety are expected to be kept clean and orderly.

LAUNDRY

The laundry does a good job at reasonable prices. Each student is entitled to have laundered free each week one pillow-slip, two sheets, two hand towels, two bath towels, and two wash cloths. All clothing and flat work should be marked with sew-on type name tapes. The college cannot be responsible for loss of or damage to clothing. In addition to the laundry, there are automatic washers and dryers for the convenience of all resident students.

BAGGAGE

Those who plan to travel by train should send their heavy luggage at least a week early. If express or parcel post packages arrive before Orientation Week, they will be delivered to the rooms. Upon arrival trunk checks may be given to the Hall Resident Head. To insure prompt delivery, hall and room numbers should be on all trunks, parcel post, and express shipments.

All trunks must be stored in the hall storerooms. The College will be glad to store other articles, such as suitcases but cannot assume liability for any damage or loss.

TUITION

Satisfactory arrangements for paying tuition must be made before one may attend classes. Tuition may be paid at the Business Office in Metcalf Hall or by mail. The Business Office will mail statements before the opening of school. Those who wish to make payments on other than a semester basis must arrange directly with the Business Office prior to arrival. The services of Tuition Plan, Inc., are required of those who wish to pay by the month.

STUDENT BANK

For the convenience of the students, the college provides a depository in the Business Office to safeguard student money. This service is provided without cost to students.

BOOKSTORE

The bookstore, located in the basement of Hathaway, sells books, school supplies, stationery, and a small assortment of toilet goods. One may charge anything except stamps, cigarettes, or candy to his bookstore bill.

POST OFFICE

Post Office boxes, located in Hathaway basement and in Howe Residence Hall, will be assigned during Orientation Week.

McNEAL GRILL

McNeal Grill, located in Howe Residence Hall, has a snack bar and soda fountain. A variety of refreshments are available through dispensing machines in the "old grill" in the basement of Hathaway Hall.

INFIRMARY

Shimer has an infirmary and a registered nurse is on duty 24 hours a day. The best of care is provided here for anything from a bruised finger to a case of flu. For more serious ailments physicians in Mount Carroll are on call and a hospital is only 10 miles away. Physicians' fees and the cost of off-campus hospitalization must be borne by the student.

LIBRARY

Campbell Memorial Library is an excellent place for research, study, or browsing. It contains in excess of 19,000 carefully selected volumes and 135 current periodicals. The Dickerson Art Gallery is located on the second floor of the building.

REGULATIONS AND THEIR ENFORCEMENT

Shimer's rules are based on an attitude of consideration for the rights and feelings of others. The Basic Student Regulations represent a general guide for student actions and determine the conditions under which life in the Shimer community operates, but Shimer College recognizes the need for each student to set his individual standards within this framework.

The Basic Student Regulations which follow are enforced both by the college administration and student judicial agencies. The powers of these bodies are stated in detail in the Jurisdictional Code.

The resident staff in each residence hall represents the administration and is responsible to the College for the general welfare of the hall. Matters of noise and other disturbances within a hall are generally tried before the Hall Council, a student judicial body. Inter-dorm problems are the concern of the Student Judiciary Board, a sub-committee of Student Cabinet. Any violations of a serious nature may be acted upon by the administration, particularly when the welfare of the entire student body or the reputation of the College is involved. When a violation is considered punishable by probation, suspension, or expulsion, the case is heard by the College Disciplinary Board, composed of the Dean of Students and four other members of the administration, or is reviewed by that Board when such a penalty is recommended by the Student Judiciary Board.

Punishments within a hall are generally designed as warnings or preventive measures, decided upon and enforced by the students themselves. More severe punishments—such as social or unqualified probation, which entail the loss of some privileges—may be imposed by the administration when the seriousness or repetition of the violation warrants the action. Disciplinary action is designed to help the individual deal productively with his problem while insuring the community's welfare.

One of Student Cabinet's tasks is to supervise and coordinate the efforts of the various student judicial agencies. As the main organ of representative student government at Shimer, Student Cabinet allots funds supplied by the College to student organization, works to effect beneficial changes in Shimer society, and serves to focus student opinion throughout the school year. Due to the size of the college, Student Cabinet is in close touch with

tion basis in order to enable all students to get better acquainted. Out of deference to others who are resting or studying, all radios and record players are kept at a low volume and musical instruments are played in Dearborn Hall. Rooms and hallways are kept clean and orderly. And so on. We have found that living together is a more enjoyable experience when the common decencies of behavior are observed.

Safety and protection of property are paramount concerns of all of us. Because of the ever present danger of fire the following regulations on smoking are specified in detail. No smoking is permitted during classes. Smoking is not permitted in hallways or classrooms where ash trays are not provided. Smoking is not permitted in student rooms except in Howe Residence Hall. Smoking is permitted in certain of the College buildings but it must of necessity be restricted to designated areas. Monthly fire drills are held.

It is traditional at Shimer College for students and faculty to respect the beauty of the campus and the appearance of the buildings by disposing of their cigarettes and other trash in appropriate receptacles.

Electrical appliances present a potential safety hazard. Of course, items such as electrical razors, small portable hair dryers, clocks, table model radios and record players and the like are permitted. However, sun or heat lamps, irons, hot plates, and other high amperage appliances are prohibited. (There are specially designated rooms for using hot plates and where ironing boards are provided.) When you move in, your electrical equipment will be checked for its safety and permissibility. If at a later date you plan to put in additional appliances you must first obtain permission from the Hall Resident Head and the Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds.

Health and safety considerations make it impossible to keep pets or laboratory animals in Residence Halls. Food may not be prepared in student rooms nor may it be stored in rooms (unless it is in vermin tight containers).

If you are going to be off campus after 11:00 p.m. you must sign out of your Residence Hall. This, too, is a necessary fire and safety regulation. In the case of a disaster you do not want to endanger the life of someone else who might enter the building

to save you in the mistaken belief that you are asleep inside, when in actuality you are off campus.

Climbing on roofs or canopies is prohibited both for the obvious reason of safety and also for the damage it can do to property. (Hence it carries a \$50.00 fine.) Nails, tacks, glue, or tape on walls or woodwork (pictures may be hung from picture molding), and moving furniture from room to room or removing it from the lounge may cause damages and expense and are thus not allowed. Student rooms may be visited by college personnel at reasonable times. It is desirable to have residence hall rooms in good order when prospective students or guests are being shown about the campus.

The following regulations regarding motor vehicles, as proposed by students, are in effect on a trial basis:

A. Students in their final year of residence before graduation are granted permission for unlimited use of their car while in residence at Shimer College, subject to the following regulations.

1. Eligible students must have previous written parental consent to have cars on campus.
2. Cars must be registered with the Dean of Students' office and a registration sticker must be kept on the windshield at all times.
3. When not in use, cars are to be kept in assigned parking spaces. While cars are on the parking lot they are to be unoccupied and kept locked at all times.
4. A car may be driven *only* by the owner.
5. Students having cars at Shimer must deposit a certificate of insurance with the Dean of Students' office. Cars must be kept in safe operating condition.
6. Private cars will not be used on college business except under written permission from the Dean of Students.
7. All students under 19 years old must have (on file in the Dean of Students' office) a written permit from their parents to ride in cars driven by students.

8. The privilege of any one individual to keep a car shall be revoked if the privilege is abused.
- B. First, second, and third year students may use a car *ONLY* for transportation between Shimer College and home. Such students may not operate their cars without permission from the Dean of Students while college is in session.
 1. The regulations under A above also apply to all first, second, or third year students who have cars at Shimer for transportation to and from home.
 2. Such a student must keep all keys to his or her car in the Dean of Students' office.
 3. Students under 19 years old must have on file in the Dean of Students' office a written permit from his or her parents to have a car at Shimer.

Normally all students at Shimer College are expected to prepare for and attend all classes. A unique feature of the College program is found in its emphasis on learning by discussion. The value of the discussion section depends upon the full participation of all students. The classroom offers a place and atmosphere where student minds may grow and mature freely by having the opportunity to think through questions for themselves with guidance by the faculty. This type of education not only offers the student a fruitful opportunity for discussing significant problems but also places upon him a responsibility and obligation to contribute to the work of the group.

A student may be dropped from a class section by an instructor for absences or for other demonstrations that his attendance is not contributing to a learning process. He may then be re-registered only upon approval by the course chairman, who will base his decision on such objective evidence as performance on a subsequent examination. Course grades reflect class participation and assigned exercises, as well as examination marks. Students who habitually abuse the privilege of attending classes may be suspended or dropped from the College.

Because of the uniqueness of the method of instruction and the use of the comprehensive examinations at the end of the year all new students are required to attend all classes regularly during their first year at Shimer. There are forms of registration available to returning students which allow more independent arrangements for study and which are described in the catalogue. Certain courses involving laboratory work or the specific acquisition of manual or vocal skills require the presence of the student in class. Such special experiences, techniques, and work habits cannot be acquired any other way than by the active participation of the student in the class exercises. Since the "concentration" courses, too, involve unique materials and the specialized knowledge of the instructor, and do not have comprehensive examinations, students are expected to attend and participate in all such class meetings.

Assemblies and convocations are College functions which represent campus-wide activities and thus attendance is required of all students.

Students who intend to be absent from campus one or more nights must make arrangements in writing with their Hall Resident Head before their departure.

For students under twenty-one years old, if stopping at a commercial lodging is involved, advance permission from parent or guardian and confirmation of the room reservation are required. Any time a student is to be absent overnight the Hall Resident Head informs the parent or guardian by mail, at that time, of the student's departure, announced destination, and time of anticipated return. Overnight absences do not excuse students from classes or other commitments on campus.

In short, a little reflection before you act will almost always answer your own question of what you should and should not do. If doubt persists, ask your Hall Resident Head or the Dean of Students. Shimer is proud of its campus. We know you will be too and that respect for property will be no problem. Even more important, we are very much concerned for your health and welfare. You have come to Shimer to learn. The above rules,

regulations, and agreements have evolved over the years for the sole purpose of making your goal attainable under the most pleasant circumstances for all.



CONSTITUTION FOR THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT OF SHIMER COLLEGE

RESOLVED: We, the students of Shimer College, in an effort to institute and promote the principle and practice of a democratic and representative government, to cooperate with the faculty and administration in providing an appropriate environment for educational achievement and social development, and to promote freedom in American education for themselves and our successors, do hereby establish this Constitution for the Student Government of Shimer College.

ARTICLE I — ORGANIZATION

- SECTION 1** The executive, legislative and judicial functions of Student Association, composed of all registered students, shall be delegated to a representative body to called the Student Cabinet. The Student Cabinet shall (a) provide government for the Student Association within the limits set by the Constitution, (b) function as a student court and an appellate court, according to the Constitution, and (c) provide hearing and redress of student grievances, according to the Constitution.
- SECTION 2** The Student Cabinet shall be composed of eleven students. Three of these are to be elected by the whole Student Association and shall be known as Representatives-at-large. The other eight shall be elected from the residence halls, the number from each hall to be determined by the number of students residing in the hall in proportion to the total number in the Student Association. The actual apportioning of representatives shall be determined by the Dean of Students in accordance with the relevant provisions of the existing By-Laws. There shall always be at least one representative from each hall.
- SECTION 3** The Student Cabinet shall elect officers at the beginning of each semester. These shall be a chairman, a recording secretary, a corresponding secretary, and a treasurer.

ARTICLE II — ELECTION PROCEDURES

- SECTION 1** The Student Cabinet shall be elected in the following manner
- A. Each of the representatives-at-large shall be nominated by petition. Each petition must bear at least fifteen signatures of the Student Association. A sheet shall be posted during the last week of the Autumn semester upon which those students wishing to run for this office shall sign within twenty-four hours after posting. These signees, and these signees only, may then have petitions

solicited for their nomination to office. Petitions shall be filed at the office of the Dean of Students at least twenty-four hours before the balloting. Duplication of signatures will render that signature invalid on all petitions. Elections shall be held at the end of the first week of the Spring semester.

- B. Election of the residence hall representatives shall take place at a meeting of at least three-fourths of the hall membership. The elections shall be held by the second Thursday of the Autumn semester—however, in the Winter semester not until after the Representatives-at-large have been elected. The method of nomination shall be decided by the respective halls. First year students shall not run for nor hold this office during their first semester of residence. Mid-year students may not run for this office prior to the Autumn semester following their admission.

SECTION 2 All voting shall be by secret ballot.

SECTION 3 Any nomination may be declined.

ARTICLE III — REPRESENTATIVES

SECTION 1 Term of Office:

- A. Representatives-at-large shall be elected for one academic year.
- B. All other representatives shall be elected for one semester.
- C. Officers shall be elected for one semester.

SECTION 2 Impeachment:

- A. Representatives may be impeached by a unanimous vote of the Cabinet, excluding the member in question, or by petition of half of the registered Student Association.
- B. The trial of an impeached member of the Student Cabinet shall be conducted at a general meeting of the Student Association by the acting

chairman of the Cabinet. A vote by secret ballot shall be taken under the supervision of the Dean of Students within twenty-four hours after the trial. A vote of at least three-fourths of the Student Association in favor of conviction is necessary for the recall of a representative.

SECTION 3 Any representative may resign at any time.

SECTION 4 Vacancies shall be filled as soon as possible according to standard election procedures as stated above. If a vacancy should occur within two weeks of the end of the term of office involved, it shall remain unfilled until the next election.

ARTICLE IV — MEETINGS

SECTION 1 The Student Cabinet shall meet once a week unless the meeting is cancelled by public notice. An agenda shall be posted at least twenty-four hours before each meeting. Members of the Student Association or faculty or administration may submit items of business if they notify the recording secretary in writing within forty-eight hours of the meeting but at least twenty-four hours before.

SECTION 2 The recording secretary shall post the minutes of a meeting within forty-eight hours after that meeting, with a separate list of changes in regulations, if any.

SECTION 3 Seven members of the Cabinet shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION 4 Any member of the Cabinet who is absent more than two times a semester without an excused absence as defined in the by-laws, shall be considered dropped from the Cabinet, and his place shall be considered vacant and shall be filled in the prescribed method.

SECTION 5 Cabinet meetings shall be conducted according to Robert's *Rules of Order*.

SECTION 6 Cabinet meetings shall be considered open unless otherwise specified by the Cabinet.

SECTION 7 The Cabinet shall convene in special meetings if the majority of the Cabinet deems the meeting necessary.

- SECTION 8** The Cabinet may invite any person to be present at any meeting, whether open or closed.
- SECTION 9** The Dean of Students shall preside at the first meeting of each semester.

ARTICLE V — POWERS

- SECTION 1** The powers granted by this article shall be exercised by the Student Cabinet in accordance with sections of this constitution and in cooperation with the faculty and the administration.
- SECTION 2** The Cabinet will enforce rules regulating student behavior on campus on its own initiative or upon the request of the administration. It will advise the administration or faculty concerning the educational program and student activities of the institution and shall have power to establish regulations concerning the latter.
- SECTION 3** The Cabinet may make inquiries concerning any activities or conditions which concern students' welfare. Following a discussion with the person or persons concerned, the chairman of the Cabinet may, in general Student Association meetings, as the case may warrant, make a report of the findings.
- SECTION 4** The Cabinet is empowered to create boards, committees, and other sub-groups, consisting of persons within or outside the Cabinet. The Cabinet shall be responsible for their actions and may revoke the powers delegated to any such groups, or dissolve them at will. Each group shall be bound by all appropriate provisions of this constitution.
- SECTION 5** The judicial functions of Student Cabinet shall be handled by a permanent subcommittee, to be known as the Student Judicial Committee. This body shall consist of a chairman and four members, to be elected for year-long terms by Student Cabinet at its first meeting of the Autumn semester. First-year students may not run for nor hold this office. The committee shall be bound by the provisions of Article V, Section 4, of the Student Government Constitution.

- SECTION 6** The Cabinet shall present requests and reasons supporting these requests to the Student-Faculty Committee in regard to policy matters.
- SECTION 7** The Cabinet shall have the power to charter all student organizations and shall coordinate the activities of all organizations. These duties shall include the allocation of funds for student organizations and activities. The allocation of funds shall be subject to the prior approval of the administration.
- SECTION 8** The Cabinet shall serve as a means of gathering and crystallizing student opinion.
- SECTION 9** The Cabinet must act as a court of appeals on any action of the Residence Hall Councils and shall have jurisdiction over cases of violation of the Basic Student Regulations not otherwise provided for.
- SECTION 10** The Cabinet shall be responsible for the general supervision and coordination of the Residence Hall Councils.

ARTICLE VI — STUDENT-FACULTY COMMITTEE

- SECTION 1** There shall be established a Student-Faculty Committee to exercise such executive powers as may be delegated to it by the faculty; to initiate recommendations or requests to the faculty, the Student Cabinet, or the Student Association; and to report its decisions and opinions to any appropriate group.
- SECTION 2** This committee shall be composed of four students and four members of the faculty or staff, and a chairman.
- A. The students shall be members of the Student Cabinet, elected by that body.
 - B. The faculty or staff members shall be chosen by the faculty.
 - C. Members of this committee shall be chosen each semester.
 - D. The President of the College shall appoint a chairman for this committee. The chairman need

not be a member of the committee, and may either be a student or a faculty member.

E. The President shall be a member of the committee ex officio.

SECTION 3 This committee shall meet regularly once every two weeks. An agenda shall be posted at least twenty-four hours before every meeting.

SECTION 4 This committee shall discuss and make recommendations upon proposals of the Student Cabinet or of the faculty that involve questions of policy, or of mutual interest and cooperation.

A. The student members of the committee shall convey to the Cabinet the sense of the committee meetings, its decisions, and the rationale supporting these.

B. The faculty members shall similarly inform the faculty.

SECTION 5 The Student-Faculty Committee shall send its recommendations to the Administrative Committee or Educational Policies Committee or Student Cabinet as is appropriate, and the Administrative Committee or the Educational Policies Committee or the Student Cabinet shall reply to the Student-Faculty Committee within a reasonable period of time.

ARTICLE VII — RESIDENCE HALL COUNCILS

SECTION 1 The residence hall governing body shall be a council consisting of from three to five members, and shall perform the legislative and judicial functions of the hall.

SECTION 2 It shall operate under the supervision of the Student Cabinet and its manner of operation shall be determined by the respective residence halls.

ARTICLE VIII — AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1 Amendments, which must be in written form, may originate in the Student Cabinet or the Student Association. Amendments suggested by the Student As-

sociation shall be by submission of petition containing the signatures of twenty-five percent of the Student Association.

- SECTION 2** Amendments must be approved by the faculty and administration and must be ratified by at least three-fourths of the Student Association that casts ballots on the proposed amendment.

ARTICLE IX — RATIFICATION

- SECTION 1** This constitution to become operative must be approved by the administration and the faculty, and must be ratified by the Student Association.

- SECTION 2** For ratification by the Student Association the Constitution shall be:

A. Voted on by articles. An affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Student Association casting ballots is necessary to ratify.

B. Voted on by secret printed ballot.

This Constitution was adopted in 1952.

JURISDICTIONAL CODE

A jurisdictional Code, the first paragraph of which follows, was adopted in 1955:

It is the desire of the College to strengthen democratic forms of self-government. This Jurisdictional Code enables students to exercise authority commensurate with their capacity as demonstrated by their assuming responsibility for their actions. The Code is meant to form and direct general policy in the handling of violations of Basic Student Regulations and other disciplinary problems that arise within the College. The Code does not in any way limit administrative action on causes which the College Administration considers justifiable, but in so far as it is feasible and prudent the Administration will rely upon student enforcement of regulations and handling of violations. Punishment involving probation or suspension may be imposed only by action of the College Administration; recommendation for such punishment may originate with the appropriate student jurisdictional authority.

EDITORIAL

Editorial in October 22, 1959, issue of *Quest*, the student newspaper of Shimer College — Rocky Keohane Editor-in-Chief

"Absorbed as some of us are in the various student issues and causes on campus, we often tend to forget the basic, underlying values which distinguish Shimer as an outstanding small college. Therefore, this column will be concerned with a rather brief examination of some of Shimer's merits, rather than its faults. In this way we may possibly be able to achieve a slightly greater awareness of the unique nature of our college.

"Naturally, the first element of Shimer life that comes to mind concerns our academic program. In very few universities of the world does the student receive the kind of opportunity for undergraduate scholarship that he has at Shimer. The use of the original and undiluted works of the great thinkers of our heritage should stimulate us to a more vibrant and fascinating type of learning. The opportunity to think for ourselves, to analyze and synthesize, is not given to the student who sees nothing but a textbook, and a person in a lecture class of 200 never receives the chance to learn through discussion.

"This brings us to another strong point of Shimer that we usually take for granted—freedom of discussion, in and out of class. In contrast to many college newspapers, which must follow the lead of the college administration or be banned, *Quest* has never had to omit an article attacking administrative policy, nor has the staff ever been forced to retract statements that were opposed to administrative viewpoint. A member of the student body or of Student Cabinet may criticize whatever he dislikes without fear of reprisal.

"The real strength of Shimer College lies in the fact that it is a true community. The common academic program and proximity in living quarters serve to weld the students into a relatively homogeneous body. Interest groups add to the atmosphere of diversified unity without breaking the campus into opposing factions. In the student body, the whole is certainly equal to more than the sum of its parts.

"There are discordant notes in Shimer life. However, let no one say that these superficialities overshadow the foundation on which the school is built. The unfettered and harmonious community of scholars is a rare thing in the twentieth century—let us take advantage of it while it lasts."

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

1960 - 1961

FIRST SEMESTER

September 18	New students arrive
September 25	Returning students arrive
September 26	Registration for returning students
September 27	Registration for new students
September 28	Classes meet
November 23-27	Thanksgiving holiday
December 18-Jan. 1	Christmas holiday
January 2	Classes meet
January 23-31	First semester examination period

SECOND SEMESTER

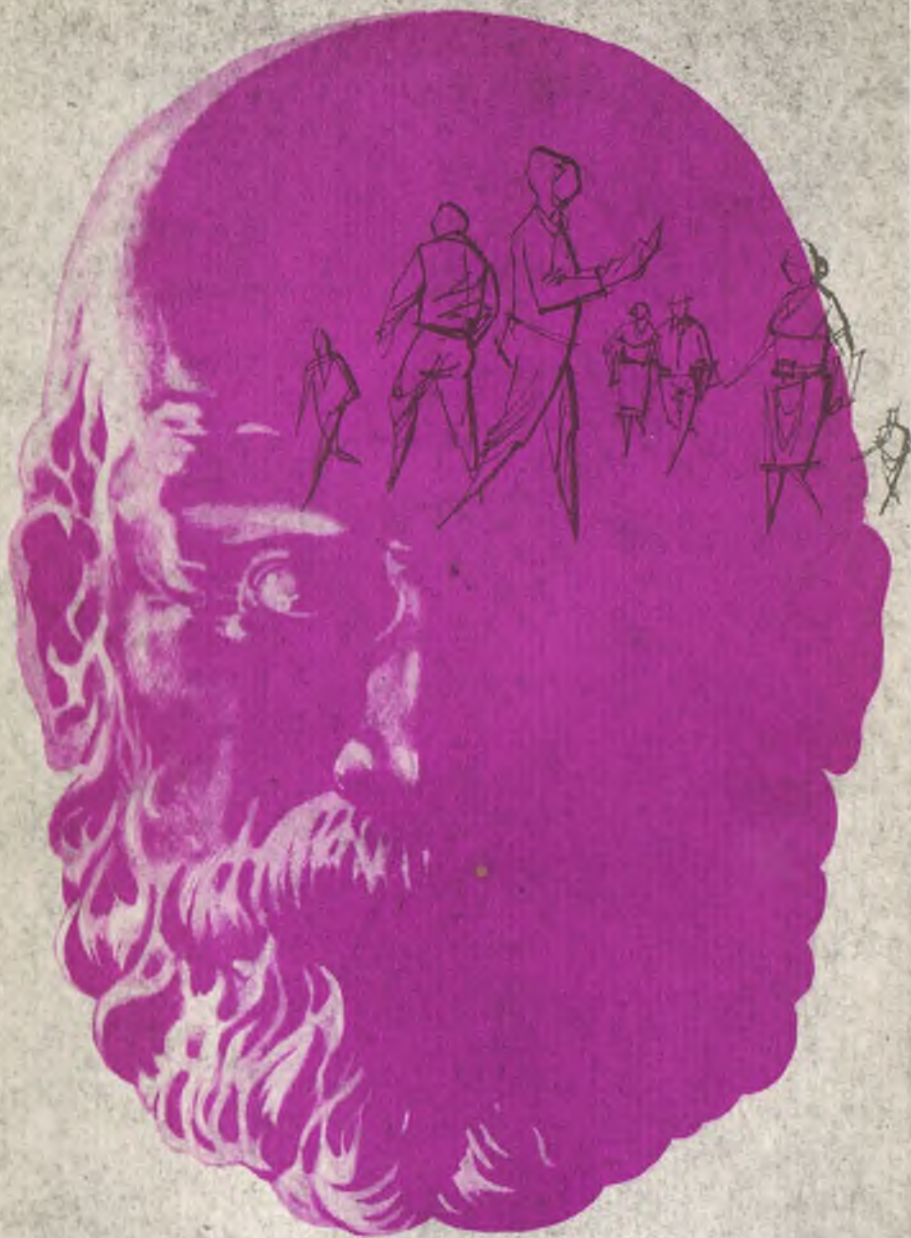
February 5	Students return for second semester
February 6	Registration for second semester
February 7	Classes meet
March 31	Good Friday — No classes meet
April 1-9	Spring vacation
May 21-28	Reading period
May 29-June 7	Examination period
June 4	Graduation Convocation

SUMMER SESSION 1961

June 19	Registration
June 20	Classes begin
July 4	Holiday
July 14	End of short term
August 9-11	Examinations



" . . . thinking must again be made popular and great thinking synonymous with high adventure . . . "



SHIMER COLLEGE
STUDENT HANDBOOK